GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5519
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2001
BIO-TECHNOLOGICAL PROJECT
JAYABEN B. THAKKAR

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are likely to initiate a bio-technological project in collaboration with Gujarat State Bio-technology Council and voluntary organisations, in the earthquake affected areas of Gujarat;

(b) if so, salient features of the project; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be in full swing?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a) : Yes, Sir. Department of Biotechnology has supported biotechnology-based projects for rehabilitation of earthquake-affected people of Gujarat in collaboration with NGO`s, Government of Gujarat, the State Bio-technology Council.

(b) & (c) : The projects implemented are in the areas of: Animal Feed and Preventive Medicine, Spirulina Production; Vermiculture and Vermicomposting; Poly-house farming and plantation with tissue culture raised plants and Production and use of bio-control agents. Five villages namely Halvad, Bhachau, Sukhpur, Narankah and Raidhanpur have been selected for the implementation of these projects. In addition, low cost food prepared at National Dairy Development Board, Anand through a DBT sponsored pilot plant has been distributed to the children in the affected areas. Already 10046 animals have been vaccinated by BAIF Development Research Foundation, Baroda and 580 animals are fed regularly. It is expected that by the middle of June 2001 all five projects would be fully operational and benefits accrued through these projects would reach the affected people. All the spade work has been done expeditiously.